

MAJOR WALKER'S REPORT TO THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS.

WHAT THE MAJOR HAS DONE. IMPROVEMENT, CHANGES AC. MORE POLICEMEN WANTED.

Major Samuel H. Walker, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police Force has submitted his report to the District Commissioners. Major Walker says: Having but recently assumed the control of the Police Department, I have not been able to closely scrutinize the work accomplished by its members during the past fiscal year, and shall not endeavor to comment upon it, but will give place in this report to the statistics for that period as shown by the records in the office of the property clerk. In speaking of

CRIME, the Major says: Last year and year before there was appropriated for the special service in the prevention and detection of crime, \$1,920. This is the only means at the disposition of the department for the employment of special or detective service. Six privates from the force, selected with a view to their peculiar fitness for the work to be done, are continually engaged as detectives and under the law abolishing the old detective force of the District, each receives in addition to his pay as a private policeman, the sum of \$200 a year which exhausts the amount appropriated. With crowded hotels, well patronized boarding houses, numbering hundreds of inmates, all employing an army of servants, many of whom turn out to be "crooked" in the course of a year; with a Jockey Club meeting in both the spring and fall, which attracts innumerable strangers of questionable character; with the horde of hard cases that must be looked after preceding and during the inauguration period and with almost constant calls for assistance every hour during the day can much better be expected? If Congress would grant \$5000 yearly for this branch of the service it would not be an extravagant amount. One-half of the appropriation made for extra police purposes at the Capitol every four years would enable the department to have a creditable detective corps, and far more good accomplished.

THE PENSION FUND.

Many on the Force who have been detailed at the Police Court as witnesses during the time allotted them for rest, men who have consumed their private hours on public duty, those who have been patrolling for years unusually large beats, are broken down under the burden they have had to carry, and there is a score of them to day who would like to be, and who should be retired from service and pensioned, would the fund permit of such a course. Congress should grant an increase of 100 men. That number would enable the placing on duty at one time, 137 men. Such action is necessary for the required labor to be performed. The estimates call for a less number, for an increase which cannot be done without. This estimate is not calculated making allowances for any reductions to be made. Actual necessities are demanded and more recommended.

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